

Application No. 10/064,785
Docket No. 13DV-14066
Amendment dated April 5, 2004
Reply to Office Action of March 4, 2004

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner reviewed claims 1-35 of the above-identified US Patent Application, with the result that claims 21-35 were allowed and claims 1-20 were withdrawn from consideration due to a restriction requirement. The restriction was on the basis that claims 1-20 (Group I) are drawn to a method and claims 21-35 (Group II) are drawn to a coating. During a telephone interview at the Examiner's initiation on February 25, 2004, Applicants' representative had provisionally elected with traverse to prosecute Group II, claims 21-35. Applicants hereby affirm the election to prosecute claims 21-35 on the merits, and have canceled claims 1-20. In addition, Applicants have amended the specification and claims as set forth above.

More particularly:

Claims 21-35 have been amended to delete the reference numbers therefrom.

The title of the invention has been amended at page 1 of the specification so as to be more descriptive of the invention recited in the elected claims.


The specification has been amended at paragraph [0006] to update the status of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/723,273 to Rigney et al. (Attorney Docket No. 13DV-13322), which issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,492,038 after the filing of the present application.

In view of the above, Applicants believe that remaining claims 21-35 are in condition for allowance.

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Should the Examiner have any questions with respect to any matter now of record, Applicants' representative may be reached at (219) 462-4999.

Respectfully submitted,

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